LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

4

Applicant submits below a complete listing of the pending claims.

- 1. (Original) An integrated circuit comprising one or several metallization levels, metal conductive strips and metal contact pads being formed on a last metallization level, the last level being covered with a passivation layer in which are formed openings above the contact pads, wherein a thickness of the pads, at least at a level of their portions not covered by the passivation layer, is smaller than the thickness of said conductive strips.
- 2. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 1, wherein at least one conductive strip forms a coil.
- 3. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 1, wherein several of said conductive strips form a supply network.
- 4. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 1, wherein the last metallization level is formed on an insulating layer, each contact pad being formed of a conductive layer covering an insulating portion laid on the insulating layer.
- 5. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 1, wherein the contact pads are made of aluminum.
- 6. (Original) A method for forming the last metallization level of the integrated circuit of claim 1, comprising:

depositing a metal layer on a substrate;

etching the metal layer to form metal portions and said conductive strips;

covering the substrate, the conductive strips, and the metal portions with a passivation layer;

forming openings in the passivation layer above the metal portions; and

partially etching the metal portions to decrease their thickness to obtain said contact pads.

7. (Original) A method for forming the last metallization level of the integrated circuit of claim 1, comprising:

depositing a metal layer on a substrate;

etching the metal layer to form metal portions and said conductive strips;

covering the conductive strips with a protection layer;

partially etching the metal portions to decrease their thickness to obtain said contact pads;

removing, if necessary, the protection layer;

covering the substrate, the conductive strips, and the contact pads with a passivation layer;

and

forming openings in the passivation layer above the contact pads.